



24 June 2007

Monsoon Safety

1. From late June through early September, the monsoon season poses potential, serious risks to USFK personnel and operations. The heaviest rainfall normally occurs in July and can quickly become very destructive. In the past, flash floods and mudslides from monsoon rains have caused loss of life and extensive property damage to USFK personnel and property. Flash flooding with as little as six inches of rapidly moving water can knock people off their feet while two feet of water can float a vehicle. The awesome power of flash floods can move boulders, tear out trees, destroy buildings and bridges, and trigger catastrophic mud slides. You will not always be warned that these deadly, sudden floods are coming. In fact, flash floods may occur at night.



2. To prevent tragedy this monsoon season, leaders at echelon must prepare for the worst and begin destructive weather planning now. Before the rain begins, review destructive weather plans, rehearse evacuation plans, and view our [Monsoon Safety Video](#). Use "[Under the Oak Tree Counseling](#)" as described in USFK Policy Letter #2 to discuss the importance of planning and caution during off-duty activities as well as risks posed to Family Members during this period. Some actions to mitigate risks associated with the monsoon include:

- ♦ Carefully select field training sites. Walk the terrain; develop and brief egress plans.
- ♦ Avoid areas subject to flooding or areas already flooded; never drive through flooded roadways or attempt to cross flowing streams.
- ♦ Do not camp or park vehicles along streams and washes.
- ♦ Be cautious of undercut roadways.
- ♦ Avoid downed power lines and electrical wires.
- ♦ When advised, evacuate immediately. Don't wait, even if it stops raining--it could be still raining upstream from your location.

3. Stay informed. Listen to your local AFN-K radio station and information channel on television and look for weather advisories on the [USFK.mil website](#). Working together we can prevent tragedy during the Monsoon and other periods of destructive weather. We Go Together!



B. B. BELL
General, US Army
Commander

FREEDOM'S FRONTIER!

B
E
L
L

S
E
N
D
S

#

31-07